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HALLER'S MACERATING FLUID[1] (central nervous system of marine Rhipidoglossa).—

Glycerine	5 parts.
Glacial acetic acid	5 "
Distilled water	20 "

This fluid causes no shrinkage, and accomplishes its work in one-half to three-quarters of an hour.

SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

PRINCETON, Feb. 16, 1886.

PROFESSOR E. D. COPE, EDITOR AMERICAN NATURALIST.

Dear Sir:—In the February number of the NATURALIST you say with regard to Professor Marsh's *Tinoceras stenops*, formerly referred by you to a new genus Tetheopsis: "I now learn on good authority that the symphyseal region in the specimen in question is entirely constructed of plaster of Paris." As I am the one from whom you derived this information, I feel bound, as a matter of simple justice, to correct the above statement, for having just reëxamined the specimen with great care, I find that I was in error in a very important respect. It is true that the left half of the symphyseal region (the only part visible when I first saw the specimen) is restored in plaster, but the right half is intact, and the restoration and drawing were made from that, a perfectly legitimate proceeding. So much I can positively state of my own knowledge, and I am also informed that the restoration was made after the time when you saw the specimen and after Professor Marsh's figure was published. Hoping that you will give this correction a conspicuous place, I remain,

Very respectfully yours, W. B. SCOTT.

[*Note on the above.*—I gladly give place to the above correction, but must append a little additional information. I saw the type specimen of *T. stenops* before 1885, probably in 1883. It was then half imbedded in a mass of what I supposed to be matrix, and the left side of the skull was exposed. The mandible of that side was at that time entire, as represented in Professor Marsh's plate. It exhibited a narrow entire alveolar edge without trace of alveoli or of weathering. What has become of this left half of the symphysis we are not informed. If it was the osseous jaw, the genus Tetheopsis is well founded.—*E. D. Cope.*]

— Among the scientific names included in the death-roll of the past year, is that of Thomas Bland, the author of numerous papers, principally on the "Land shells of the Antillean islands and the North American continent." Mr. Bland's labors and investigations included not only the descriptive and systematic, but also the geographical, structural and developmental aspects of Molluscan life, and his discussion of phenomena, in which these subjects were involved, is marked by judicious and philosophic treatment. He was the coadjutor of Mr. W. G. Binney in various ways, and their names appear side by side in several instances, particularly in the volume on the "Land and fresh water shells of North America," published by the Smithsonian Institution. In 1884, Mr. A. F. Gray compiled and printed a bibliography of Mr. Bland's papers and contributions to this department of natural history. Mr. Bland was born in Nottinghamshire, England, October 4, 1809, and died in Brooklyn, N. Y., August 20th, 1885. His father was a physician and his mother was related to Shepard, the naturalist. He received his education at the Charter House school, London, and had Thackeray for a classmate. Subsequently he studied and practiced law. In 1842, he went to Barbadoes and afterward to Jamaica, where he became acquainted with Professor C. B. Adams, which led to those investigations which gave to Mr. Bland honorable rank as a scientific thinker and worker. In 1862, he came to New York, and this country became his permanent home. He was a most estimable gentleman, courteous and genial, and greatly beloved by all who knew him.—*R. E. C. S.*

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[1] Morph. Jahrbuch., XI, H. 3, p. 323, 1885.

— The annual meeting of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution was held at Washington, Jan 13. The secretary announced that Congress had reëlected Doctors MacLean, Gray and Coppé as regents for six years, and General Meigs in place of General Sherman, resigned. Professor Baird submitted his report for the six months ending June 30, 1885. He also presented a financial statement showing that the receipts of the institution for 1885 amounted to $67,500, and the expenditures to $45,107, leaving a balance of $33,453. Professor Baird presented a statement showing the necessity for a storage building for alcoholic specimens, also for a new building for the museum, as there are enough valuable specimens to fill a second building the size of the present one.

—A telegram from Colima has been received by the Government, stating that on the morning of Friday, the 15th January, another eruption of the volcano occurred, preceded as before by loud detonations. Enormous stones were thrown to a great height, and were plainly visible from the city of Colima, which is twenty-five miles distant. Photographs depicting the volcano at the moment of its greatest activity were taken by the instantaneous process.

— Professor W. W. Bailey writes us that a few years ago there was an interesting discussion in the NATURALIST upon abnormal or unusual food of cats. "Now I have two kittens, both female, one of whom is especially fond of peanuts, cracking and eating them; and *both* of dates. Certainly this is diet unusual enough to be worthy of record."

— A monograph on the recent Brachiopoda by the late Thomas Davidson, LL.D., F.R.S., edited by Agnes Crane, will be issued in three parts, with thirty quarto plates, during 1886, and will form a separate volume of the Transactions of the Linnæan Society of London.

— The Academy of Natural Science in Philadelphia has, by the death of the widow of the late Mr. H. N. Johnson, come into possession of the entire estate as residuary legatee. It is valued at over $50,000, and the available annual income is nearly $1500.

— Dr. Daniel G. Brinton, of Philadelphia, has been announced as the Laureate of the Société Américaine de France for 1886, and awarded the medal of the society for his work on the native tongues of America.

— Dr. Walter Flight. chemist and mineralogist, and assistant in the mineralogical department of the British Museum, died Nov. 6, aged forty-four.

— J. J. de Tschudi, a Swiss naturalist and traveler, author of a work on Peru translated into English, died in January, at the age of sixty-eight.

— Professor John Morris, who held the chair of geology in University college, London, died in January, aged seventy-five.

— P. Harting, the distinguished professor of zoölogy in the University of Utrecht, died Dec. 7.

— *Erratum.*—On p. 171, line 27, for Orthopod *read* Arthropod.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

INDIANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—In accordance with the call issued by the Brookville Society of Natural History, a number of Indiana scientists met at the court-house at Indianapolis, on Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1885, at 2 o'clock P.M. J. P. D. John, D.D., of DePauw University, was made temporary chairman and Amos W. Butler, temporary secretary. O. P. Jenkins, J. C. Branner and S. P. Stoddard, M.D., were appointed a committee on organization. They reported a constitution and by-laws which were adopted. The name selected is Indiana Academy of Science. The objects of the academy are "scientific research and the diffusion of knowledge concerning the various departments of science." The membership is to be confined to persons "engaged in scientific work or in original research." No provision has yet been made for fellowships. The committee on organization reported the following list of officers: president, David S. Jordan, Indiana university, Bloomington; vice-presidents, J. M. Coulter, Wabash college, Crawfordsville, J. P. D. John, DePauw university, Greencastle, Rev. D. R. Moore, Brookville; secretary, Amos W. Butler, Brookville; treasurer, O. P. Jenkins, State Normal School, Terre Haute; librarian, J. N. Hurty, Indianapolis, all of whom were elected. Papers were read giving, as far as possible, a statement of the